

# Exchanging Corrosion-Control Knowledge

*By Robert Kidwell*

The DoD Corrosion Exchange manages and distributes information about corrosion prevention and control (CPC) through an e-portal. The assistant deputy under secretary of defense for maintenance policy sponsors this website, and this effort has been designated as one of the cornerstones in the DoD's long-term strategy for corrosion prevention and mitigation.

The e-portal is life-cycle oriented and serves as a leader in corrosion research. The site is a model of industry coordination, and it disseminates information to every individual and organization in DoD. It also provides data to academia and to defense industry—those people with an interest in corrosion (especially as it relates to DoD weapon systems, equipment, related commercial assets, and infrastructure)

The website provides an online forum that provides cutting-edge, collaboration and information-sharing tools to the fleet (Visit [www.dodcorrosionexchange.org](http://www.dodcorrosionexchange.org)). It allows all sectors of the CPC community to exchange technical information. Its virtual library has branches: One is application-based and geared toward the warfighter (in service and weapon-system order), and the other is research-based and populated mainly with abstracts from published papers in the corrosion field. This research component is led by a team of five multi-discipline, doctorate-level scientists and engineers. Available tools include text conferencing, voting, exploder lists, special-interest groups, calendars, FTP, and assorted corrosion references. Members can collaborate and share corrosion information freely in an open forum or

a secure environment to meet specific needs across the CPC community.

The Honorable Mike Wynne, acting principal undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology, and logistics, at the Tri-Service Corrosion Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., on November 21, 2004, said, "It is our desire that this Exchange be the first stop for those needing or desiring corrosion-related information on DoD assets." This site and its tools are the primary corrosion resource for the CPC community and bring together disparate websites, repositories, and corrosion-related items and users from the public and private sectors.

Aging systems pose a unique challenge for corrosion maintenance and safety programs. The Corrosion Exchange will help and will carry corrosion technology into the 21st century, providing free web-based access and links to corrosion information and readily shares this information with the fleet.

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